National Hispanic Heritage Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month is observed annually from September 15 through October 15. Listed below are local events scheduled throughout the in observance of National Hispanic Heritage Month. The events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

Family Concert, Monday, September 19, 2011, 7:00 p.m., Petworth Library, 4200 Kansas Ave., NW, Washington, DC. Enjoy a bilingual concert featuring children's author and recording artist José-Luis Orozco as he makes learning fun and exciting with music. Please call 202-243-1188 for more information.

Performance: "Strange Democracy," by The Mexican Revolution Performance Artist, Guillermo Gómez-Peña, Thursday, Sept. 23, at 5:30 p.m., and Friday, Sept. 24, at 6:30 p.m., Smithsonian American History Museum, Carmichael Auditorium, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. Strange Democracy is a work that addresses Mexican and U.S. culture, and was inspired by the Mexican Revolution.

Fiesta DC, Sunday, September 25, 2011, 12 noon – 7 p.m. Enjoy a celebration of the Latino culture with arts & crafts, food, a community pavilion, and a parade from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Columbia Heights, Mt. Pleasant St. (between Argonne Pl. and Park Rd.), NW, Washington, DC. For more information visit, www.fiestadc.org.

NASA HQ Hispanic Heritage Month Program, Thursday, September 29, 2011, 11:00 a.m., National Transportation Safety Board Conference Center, 490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Washington, DC. This program will feature Frederick Soto, a published author and one of America's leading motivational speakers and authorities on diversity and leadership. This program is sponsored by the Southwest Interagency Committee (SWIC SEP). All Headquarters employees are invited to attend. If you have questions, contact Claudia Silver at 358-0936.

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, Saturday, October 1, 2011, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Rockville Town Center, 12 N Washington St., Rockville, MD. Celebrate the breadth of Hispanic cultures at this community event featuring live music, vendors, and more. For more information call 240-314-5000.

La Catrina String Quartet Concert, Friday, October 7, 2011, 7:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.), Mexican Cultural Institute, 2829 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC. La Catrina has performed their unique repertoire of Latin-American music throughout the U.S. and Mexico. Seating is Limited; RSVP recommended at RSVP@instituteofmexicodc.org. For more information, visit LaCatrina Quartet Concert.

Family Day: Innovators in Air and Space, Saturday, October 15, 2011, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, Independence Avenue and 6th Street, SW, Washington, DC. This program will include bilingual story times and hands-on activities along with a discussion on Hispanic Americans' contributions to space exploration and aeronautics. Visit Innovators in Air & Space Event for more information.

For a complete listing of events sponsored by the Smithsonian in celebration of National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, visit Smithsonian Hispanic Heritage Month Events

Cultural Exhibit, ongoing through October 22, 2011, Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Saturday 12 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., Mexican Cultural Institute, 2829 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20009-4204. This exhibition features photographs and articles by the National Geographic Magazine showcasing Mexico's history for over 100 years. For more information visit www.instituteofmexicodc.org.

WETA Television celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month with a variety of programs on the Latino experience, past and present. For a detailed program listing, visit WETA TV - Hispanic Heritage Month.

PBS explores the culture of Hispanic and Latino Americans in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month. For a detailed program listing, visit PBS - Hispanic Heritage Month.